

National Aeronautics & Space Administration  
**Goddard Space Flight Center**  
Wallops Flight Facility  
Wallops Island, VA 23337-5099



April 14, 2011

Request for Information  
BACKGROUND:

**THIS IS A REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ONLY:**

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), Wallops Flight Facility, is seeking qualified sources capable of performing aircraft program management and maintenance support services. In addition, **NASA is seeking capabilities from all categories of SB for the purpose of determining the appropriate level of competition and/or SB subcontracting goals for this requirement.**

NASA's Wallops Flight Facility (WFF) conducts international airborne scientific research in a uniquely modified Lockheed P-3, and conducts program support within the continental U.S. with a generic B-200. Both aircraft are based at Wallops Island, VA. The P-3 is utilized as a flying laboratory operating approximately 300 hours annually. The B-200 is typically used for program support and passenger carriage and operates approximately 200-300 hours annually. Both aircraft can be outfitted with unique, custom built instruments that are uploaded for specific missions which last an average duration of one month. The average mission upload requires one month or more of installation of its payload, which necessitates the expertise of skilled and experienced technicians capable of:

- Maintaining both aircraft in accordance with NASA directives, which are based on OEM (original equipment manufacturer) procedures for both scheduled and unscheduled activities
- Installing and integrating project equipment to the aircraft. This involves mechanical and electrical interfaces with aircraft system and structures.
- Deploying with the aircraft for periods of up to, but not limited to, 12 weeks

Additionally, as there are more requirements to support remote sensing instruments than can be met by the NASA-owned aircraft, NASA requires the ability to acquire airborne flight support through commercial sources. Such aircraft would require the ability to be outfitted with a variety of remote sensing instruments, and be able to satisfy various requirements depending on the instrument such as specific airspeed or altitude regimes.

NASA is also seeking aircraft support for visiting and tenant aircraft at WFF. This support would include, but is not limited to, basic aircraft needs such as chocks, servicing of tires, struts, nitrogen/oxygen support, marshalling duties, etc.

Required:

1. Technicians required are: four (4) Airframe and Powerplant mechanics applicable at least two (2) of whom also hold a turbo-prop flight engineer rating in the Lockheed P-3 aircraft, and who have at least ten (10) years experience with maintenance and operations of P-3 aircraft. Applicable FAA certificate is required.
2. In addition, two (2) experienced electricians who have at least ten (10) years experience with maintenance and operations of P-3 aircraft. Individuals are required to install and maintain the project equipment in working order during remote mission operations.
3. In addition, one (1) highly experienced flight operations Project Manager who is also an Airframe and Powerplant mechanic possessing at least ten (10) years experience with maintenance and operations of P-3 aircraft. This individual is required to oversee operations and manage contract and employee issues. It is highly desirable that this Project Manager hold a turbo-prop flight engineer rating in the Lockheed P-3 aircraft. Should the Project Manager hold a turbo-prop flight engineer rating as described, only one person in the technician category above (bullet 1) will need to hold a turbo-prop flight engineer rating. Applicable FAA certificate is required.
4. In addition, one (1) highly experienced flight operations Project Manager who is also a highly experienced P-3 Captain with a minimum of ten (10) years experience managing P-3 flight operations, and who is also qualified to fly as Captain on the B-200, and who holds an FAA Air Transport Pilot Certificate.
5. Aircraft required would vary, but would include a variety of platforms such as the equivalent to the following:
  - a. Twin engine turbo-prop such as Twin Otter or King Air
  - b. Light jet such as Citation or Gulfstream
  - c. Light-weight unmanned platform capable of carrying 15+ pound payload

All employees must be willing to travel for extended periods, both domestically and internationally. All flights are conducted under "Public Use" government operations, which are governed exclusively by NASA regulations. In addition to maintenance activities, the vendor must have the capability and proven experience to directly or indirectly provide services for all aspects of the operation to include:

- Flight crew duties
- Engineering services
- Procurement of all parts sufficient to maintain the aircraft and instrument suites
- Networking with partners that can provide major structural repairs
- Obtainment of science support in the field to include gases, and material support to maintain science instruments in the field

NASA intends to contract with only one vendor to supply all of the aircraft services and material support noted above. It is anticipated that performance will be for five years, commencing on or after October 1, 2011.

*Questions specific to this RFI may be sent to the point of contact listed below on or before April 21, 2011 via email.*

**Please send capability statements to the following point of contact and address no later than April 29, 2011 before 2:30 p.m. eastern standard time:**

NASA, Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), Wallops Flight Facility (WFF), **Attn: Finale M. Uptegrow**, Code 210.W, Wallops Island, VA 23337, telephone 757-824-2794, fax 757-824-1974, **e-mail address: finale.m.uptegrow@nasa.gov** on or before April 29, 2011 at 2:30 p.m. eastern standard time.

*Please reference Aircraft M&O - 4200371363*

Email communication of this information is acceptable and encouraged. Oral communication is not acceptable. *This request is for information and source list planning purposes only and is not to be construed as a commitment by the Government nor will the Government pay for any information solicited.*

Finale M. Uptegrow  
Contract Specialist